

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 SSO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02

FAA-00 L-03 INRE-00 USIE-00 PRS-01 PA-01 SS-15

NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 /072 W

-----026715 211332Z /46

O R 211210Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3025

INFG AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 1444

GEORGSTOWN FOR TICE

E;O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: EAIR, CU, BB

SUBJ: CUBANA CRASH INQUIRY REPORT

REF: BRIDGETOWN 1437 (NOTAL)

1. AT SOCIAL FUNCTION LAST EVENING, CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER TOLD ME HE HAD LEARNED THAT CUBANA CRASH INQUIRY REPORT WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO PARLIAMENT AND RELEASED TO PRESS TODAY (JUNE 21). HE ADDED THAT HE HAD INSISTED PARLIAMENT BE INFORMED THAT CANADIAN MEMBER OF INQUIRY COMMISSION HAD SIGNED ONLY PART I OF REPORT.

2. WHENN, SOME MINUTES LATER, MINEXTAFF HENRY FORDE APPEARED AT SAME FUNCTION, I ASKED HIM IF HE COULD CONFIRM  
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FACT THAT REPORT WOULD BE RELEASED FOLLOWING DAY. HE REPLIED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE AND IN ANSWER TO MY QUESTION AS TO HIS ASSESSMENT OF LIKELY REACTION, STATED THAT HE THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE LITTLE OR NONE LOCALLY. OPPOSITION HAD SHOWN LITTLE DISPOSITION TO DEBATE FOREIGN POLICY QUESTIONS IN THE PAST AND WOULD GAIN NO MILEAGE FROM DEBATING THIS ONE. HE REGRETTEED THAT REPORT WAS BEING RELEASED

AT THIS TIME, HOWEVER, AS GOTT WAS SURE TO BE ANNOYED  
AND ITS ANNOYANCE WOULD INEVITABLY MAKE MATTERS MORE  
DIFFICULT AT FORTHCOMING CARIBBEAN HEADS OF GOVERNMENT  
CONFERENCE.

3. I NOTED THAT PORTION OF REPORT DEALING WITH ALLEGED  
AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT, WHILE INCONCLUSIVE, SUGGESTED THAT  
ITS AUTHOR OR AUTHORS WERE NOT CONVINCED US HAD PLAYED NO  
ROLE AND EXPRESSED VIEW THAT, GIVEN NEBULOUS NATURE OF  
TESTIMONY IN THIS REGARD, CHARGES AGAINST US SHOULD HAVE  
BEEN DISMISSED OUTRIGHT. FORDE AGREED THAT AUTHOR, WHOM  
HE IDENTIFIED AS SUPREME COURT JUSTICE DENYS WILLIAMS,  
SHOULD HAVE STRESSED THAT TESTIMONY WAS NOTHING BUT "HEARSAY."

4. FORDE ADDED HE INFORMED THAT AUBREY FRASER WAS PREPARING  
REPORT FOR NEXT ISSUE OF "WEST INDIAN LAW JOURNAL" (DUE IN  
OCTOBER) DEALING WITH LEGAL ASPECTS OF THE CASE. HE IMPLIED  
THAT ARTICLE MIGHT CAUSE USG SOME CONCERN.  
SIMMS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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